



VICTORIA POLICE

ORU – Evidence Gathering Teams (EGT) Course Session Plan

Program Name: <i>Public Order Evidence Gathering Team (EGT) Course</i>	
Centre of Learning/Unit (Session Owner): <i>Operations Support Division</i>	Centre of Learning/Unit (Session Deliverer): <i>Operations Response Unit</i>
Session Name: <i>Crowd Behaviour</i>	
Session Duration: <i>90 mins</i>	Session ID: <i>Session Eleven</i>
Delivery Location: ☐ Academy ☒ Other (specify):	
Author Name: 33(1)	V or VP Number: 33(1)
Aim: To provide learners with the knowledge and skills required to understand crowd behaviour at public order events	
Learning Outcomes: On successful completion of this session, learners should be able to: 1. Describe types of crowd behaviour 2. Outline operational safety and tactical options	
Resources/Equipment: - Classroom - Computer with mainframe access and MS PowerPoint - Overhead Projector and screen - Seating for all learners - Table or chairs with writing pad - Two trainers - Learners in dress of the day - Writing Pad - "Crowd Behaviour" PowerPoint	
Pre-session Preparation: OHS Inspection of the training facility completed ☒ Yes ☐ No Comments: - Risk Assessment in place for the venue and checked - Health and Safety Check of the working area – Suitable for session	

File location:

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- All trainers are first aid qualified
- Location of First Aid kits have been identified

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Delivery Method	Content	Delivery Resources	Time
Face to Face	During Knowledge Checks and De-briefs consideration should be given to utilising open style of questioning (Who, Why, What, Where, When, How) and Experiential Learning Cycle (ELC) to facilitate learning. Learners should be encouraged to ask questions at relevant times throughout the session. Trainers to meet and greet learners in the classroom. Trainers to make visual check to ensure all officers have appropriate resources (Writing Pad / Pen). Introduction Trainers will introduce themselves and the session Maslow - Trainer will go through relevant points from risk assessment, emergency evacuation procedures, location of first aid kits, welfare etc. Gestalt - Route map of session outlining Aim and Objectives. Knowledge Check - to cover overall subject to ascertain learner's levels of Knowledge / Experience. Open style of questioning (Who, Why, What, Where, When, How).		5 mins
Face to Face	Trainer is to present the Power Point titled " <i>Crowd Behaviour</i> " to the learners.	"Crowd Behaviour" PowerPoint	80 mins

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	Trainer is conduct a knowledge check at the start of every slide and generate discussion by using open style questioning (5wh) to prompt involvement from learners. This lesson will be classroom based. <u>SLIDE 1</u> Crowd Behaviour Brief introduction to the lesson <u>SLIDE 2</u> Protests in Victoria Overview of the types of protests conducted in Victoria. Succinct information about each event, providing an overview for the learners involved.		
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	<u>SLIDE 3</u> Current Trends Trainers to speak about current trends, and using prompts provided including climbing and advanced ropes courses, taking over main intersections in Melbourne CBD creating delays for commuters and chalk being used and not permanently damaging property. Discussion should include some current Police tactics such as using water barriers to increase the freedom of movement for members at predetermined locations. <u>SLIDE 4</u> Protest groups in Victoria Open this to the group and briefly touch on groups not covered. Keep in mind this will be covered in greater detail during the OSD Intel Awareness session.		
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SLIDE 5

Planning that goes into a protest

Discuss how the majority of people attending organised demonstrations or large public order events make a decision to attend these types of events ahead of time and attendance isn't spontaneous.

Show the #NoDashForGas video via YouTube – Running Time 8 minutes

<https://www.youtube.com/waHovQqw9jEJYtch?v=>

This protest was 3-4 months in the planning and included completing location reconnaissance of the area to avoid Police detection, determine movements of security guards and choosing four separate meeting points to enter the location to minimise the risk of all members of the group getting caught.

The group used the company's promotions material and also entered the premises with a pin-hole camera to complete an accurate map of the location. All members involved completed ropes training, abseiling and using ladders and razor wire at various heights to train for entering the complex. Food rations were also taken in when entering to maximise their stay.

The group lasted eight days on food rations, stopping 20,000 tons of carbon-dioxide

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	being emitted. All had been arrested – 16 who occupied the two chimneys and five who stayed on the ground – and had police bail conditions forbidding them to associate with each other as well as a 7pm-9am curfew and a ban on going within 50m of any power station. What happened to the group In 2013 the group feared they might be charged with conspiracy to commit trespass. A day after the last activist answered police bail, the most serious charge they face is aggravated trespass, with a maximum sentence of six months. No one has ever been sent to prison for trespassing during a power station occupation. Activists convicted following previous actions have been conditionally discharged, fined or ordered to do community service. EDF has dropped a £5 million law suit against a group of climate change protesters, following sustained pressure from the public and high profile campaigners. Twenty-one people who occupied a power station for a week have avoided custodial sentences. The group of 12 women and nine men was charged with aggravated trespass after the sit-in at EDF Energy West Burton, in Nottinghamshire. Sixteen of them were given community orders and five a conditional discharge at		
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	Nottingham Magistrates' Court. The campaigners from No Dash For Gas said they were against plans to build 20 gas-fired power stations. The group had admitted aggravated trespass, at court in February. The defendants were each told to pay costs of £85 and a victim surcharge of £60 <u>SLIDE 6</u> Guardian Documentary – Behind the scenes on Birmingham Derby day with football fans and Police. Footage shows how crowd behaviour has the potential to change during large public order events and how people's emotions can change during these types of situations. Footage of EG's throughout the documentary presents learning opportunities throughout along with the comments from Professor Clifford Stott who is a highly regarded public order academic throughout the world. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4XWHuAmMmU4 – Running time 18 minutes		
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SLIDE 7

Social media has changed the behaviour of some protesters and also the way activities are now organised. Various social media platforms provide new avenues of communication pre, during and post event. Facebook is the predominant platform of choice currently and also allows Police to observe activities regarding the events.

Group numbers, route locations, images and videos can all be uploaded immediately and have the potential to change protest behaviour. The instant nature of social media platforms can have profound effects on the mood of protesters and also can highlight Police methods and positioning. EG's need to be mindful when being filmed or having their images captured by members of the public and whilst unavoidable professional standards need to be maintained at all times.

The power of 'Celebrity' can promote certain events using social media such as Facebook and Twitter. Russell Crowe recently 'tweeted' about the Manus Island situation and received over 500 retweets and has 2.7 million followers. To put this in perspective the Refugee Action Collective (Event Organisers) have less than 12,000 'likes' on Facebook and 2,825 followers on twitter (One follower per 1000 of Crowe's), EG's will also have to be mindful of well-known people attending events as they will most likely increase the amount of people attending the event and could also become a target for opposing groups. Events in Melbourne have attracted Politicians and media personalities.

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	<u>SLIDE 8-9</u> Public perception of EG's Trainers should discuss the perception of EG's in a group format answering any questions learners have regarding this and how learners have seen EG's at public events. What type of challenges do learners see in regards to how EG's are perceived. <u>SLIDE 9</u> Early Deployment EG's will be deployed earlier than Public Order Response Teams (PORT) at almost every deployment they attend as EG's. The reasons for early deployment include (and not exclusive of) • Pre event reconnaissance • Establishing an early mood of the various groups • Assist command with attendance numbers during the early stages • Identification of certain individuals (including P.O.I's) • State of normality		
Face to Face	Conclusion		5 mins

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	<u>SLIDE 10</u> Crowd Dynamics (Cover slide only) <u>SLIDE 11</u> Crowd Behaviour Most of our crowd behaviour theory is based on the work of Gustave Le Bon, who developed Contagion theory. The theory suggests that crowds exert a sort of hypnotic influence on their members. The hypnotic influence combined with the anonymity of belonging to a large group of people, even just for that moment, results in irrational, emotionally charged behavior, even violent action. This theory formed the basis for police response to crowds for more than 7 decades – usually brute force on all involved. Convergent theory suggests that people who want to act in a certain way intentionally come together to form crowds. It assumes that when a critical mass of individuals with the same desire to effect change come together, collective action occurs almost automatically. Think 'strength in numbers', think Socialist Alliance, think Refugee Action Collective. In this situation, a course of action is usually agreed upon by key people before the crowd forms who then are able to easily influence like-minded individuals in the crowd to take action.		
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	The Emergent Norm theory combines the above two theories, arguing that it is a combination of like-minded individuals, anonymity, and shared emotion that leads to crowd behavior. It argues that people come together with specific expectations and social norms, but in the interactions that follow the development of the crowd, new expectations and norms can emerge. This allows for behavior that normally would not take place. For example, law-abiding citizens can peacefully assemble at Parliament House to protest the budget cuts to university funding. During the course of their protest, a few highly agitated members of the crowd start shouting profanities and start throwing rocks at Parliament House. Soon, shouting and throwing rocks seems to become an acceptable crowd behavior, and within minutes, the rest of the crowd is shouting and throwing rocks, too. <u>SLIDE 12</u> Types of Crowds There are four types of crowds • Casual Crowds • Cohesive Crowds • Expressive Crowds • Aggressive Crowds		
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	<u>SLIDE 13-30</u> Refer to PowerPoints (nil notes at this stage) The trainer is to conduct a knowledge check with the learners to satisfy themselves all the learning outcomes have been met. Suggested questions could be; - Name three pre-attack indicators? - What type of planning might go into a larger protest? - What was the most surprising thing you observed on the #NoDashForGas video? THANK THE LEARNERS FOR THEIR ATTENTION AND EFFORTS. GIVE THEM INFORMATION ON THE NEXT SESSION IN THE SEQUENCE		
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